IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

HASHIGUCHI et al.

Appl. No.: 10/578,770

§371(c) Date: February 22, 2007

For: Method of Concentrating and Purifying Nucleic Acid and

Apparatus Therefor

Confirmation No.: 6215

Art Unit: 1795

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 0666.2880000/TGD/AFK

Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks and Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.